



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Secretary

February 7, 2023

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 48 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Collaborative Care Model Services – Implementation and Reimbursement Expansion – Letter of Information

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of information for House Bill (HB) 48 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Collaborative Care Model Services – Implementation and Reimbursement Expansion. HB 48 will implement the collaborative care model (CoCM) statewide with a start date of October 1, 2023, which MDH has been piloting since July 2020. CoCM is an evidence-based model where primary behavioral health services are delivered in a primary care setting with the help of a behavioral health case manager and a consulting psychiatric provider.

MDH implemented the CoCM pilot program in July 2020, in accordance with HB 1682/SB 83 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Collaborative Care Pilot Program (Ch. 683 and 684 of the Acts of 2018). Preliminary results of evaluation efforts suggest that the CoCM Pilot Program has improved clinical outcomes. More than 65 percent of individuals enrolled in the intervention for more than 70 days demonstrated clinically significant improvement. For additional information, please see the 2021 Joint Chairmen’s Report (p. 113-114) on the Pilot Program.¹

MDH estimates that expanding CoCM statewide would cost approximately \$20.9 million per year in total funds, with \$8.2 million coming from State general funds and the remaining \$12.8 million coming from federal matching funds.

If you have any questions, please contact Megan Peters, Acting Director of Governmental Affairs, at megan.peters@maryland.gov or (410) 844-2318.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Secretary

¹ For additional information, please see the 2021 CoCM Pilot Program JCR:
<https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/Documents/JCRs/2021/collaborativecarepilotJCRfinal11-21.pdf>.